

# THE DELTA LEADER

"ADVOCATE OF THE MID-SOUTH"

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NO. 14

## Delta Planters Paid To Tenants Millions Of Dollars Delta Towns Ready For Christmas Shoppers

### Do Your Christmas Shopping Early To Avoid the Christmas Rush

Mississippi Delta merchants invite the general public to come in and see their Christmas stock, do your Christmas shopping and avoid the holiday rush. The Christmas decorations will be scarce this year. The beautiful sceneries of Delta towns will not be seen this Christmas. We are sure this will remind the Christmas shoppers that our country is at war. Let us buy the things that are essential, and invest the remainder of our money in war bonds and stamps. If everyone should do this, Christmas will be celebrated safely and peacefully. Merchants are asking you to come in today.

### Bible Institute Closed At Elizabeth

Monday night and Tuesday night, Dec. 7-8, a Bible Institute under the auspices of National Non-Sectarian Bible Class, Prof. Chas. Haffer, Jr., Director and Principal Teacher, Rev. F. A. Boyd, assistant teacher. The crowd was not as large as had been expected, however, those who were present enjoyed themselves to the highest. The institute was informational as well as inspirational.

One of the subjects discussed was "The Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven and the Keys of Hell and Death." The latter subject discussed was, "Gods Kingdom to be Established on Earth."

The congregation was enthusiastic because they found out things about the Bible that they did not know.

The Second Baptist church at Elizabeth, Miss., was the place. Large contributions were given to help carry on work.

### Let's Go To Rosehill Baptist Church

Monday, December 27-Thursday, December 30, a Bible Institute will convene with the Rosehill Baptist Church, pastored by Rev. Dorsey. Everybody is invited. Be on hand each night. Bible questions will be answered. Subjects of importance will be discussed.

The following are some of the subjects which will be discussed: "The Signs of the Times," "Earthly and Heavenly Promises Contrasted."

All Christian workers, teachers, superintendents and leaders are urged to be present each night.

### Dr. J. M. Robinson Gives Views On the Poll Tax Bill

Passage of the so-called poll tax bill, now pending in the Senate in its present form "probably will do great harm on the South," Dr. J. M. Robinson, president of the Arkansas Negro Democratic Association, said yesterday.

In a letter to United States Senator Hattie W. Caraway, he said racial matters already are tense in the South and that the bill should be amended with a specific understanding that Southern states affected will amend their party rule to permit all who may qualify as Democrats to vote in the primaries.

His letter follows: "Dear Senator Caraway: I received your letter of a fortnight past wherein you suggested that I might write you fully on any matter I deemed beneficial. In reply, I am taking the liberty to write you my opinion upon the great booby poll tax bill now pending before the Senate for a final vote. Much has been said pro and con about this bill. I am assuming my humble opinion will not carry much weight, I further, am cognizant of the fact that this letter may cause considerable criticism for my frankness by those who see just such matters from only one angle. However, during it may appear on the surface, I am, at least, honest in my declaration.

"The passage of this bill presently do very little good and



REV. JOHN WATSON, B. TH. Lake Village, Ark.

Rev. John Watson, 29 years of age, is the pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Lake Village, and the only resident pastor of the city.

He is the Vice Moderator of the Chicago District Association and the Instructor of the Ministers Alliance of the City. He is also a member of the National Baptist Convention of U. S. A., Inc.

### Interested In Art And Craft

So many men in training at Port Dix have shown an interest in arts and crafts that the weekly class conducted at the Rifle Range Road USO club has been moved from the studio into the larger auditorium.

The average class attendance is recorded as approximately 125 men. They are taught sculpturing, painting, drawing, pottery, leather and costume jewelry making. Currently, they are also making their own Christmas cards. The class is an extension of the Tyler School of Art at Temple University, Philadelphia. All of the instructors are volunteers and they make weekly trips to the USO club from Philadelphia.

According to the club director, Richard T. Lockett, this is a first experience for most of the men in any form of artistic expression. Several of them, he said, have done excellent and serious work; others merely enjoy creating something, even if it has no artistic merit. He believes a number of the men will pursue art as a hobby or a profession after the war.

### ATTEND FUNERAL

Rev. and Mrs. B. C. Hedrick of Chicago, Ill., were called to Memphis, Tenn., on account of the death of their aunt, Mrs. Raleigh Thomas. Mrs. Thomas is the mother of the late Dr. Howard Raleigh of Harvard U. The interment was at Port Gibson, Miss. We extend to the bereaved our hearty sympathy. While here both visited with their niece, Mrs. Myrtle Thomas on Hamgreen St.

### Prof. George Oliver Veteran School Teacher Dies

CLARKSDALE, Miss.—The funeral of Prof. George Oliver was held last Sunday from the St. James A. M. E. church, where he had held membership for many years. Prof. Oliver had seen Clarksdale grow from a wilderness into one of the Mississippi Delta's outstanding and progressive towns.

He built the system of Negro education in Clarksdale and Coahoma county, and was principal of the Negro schools in the city system approximately fifty years before he was retired. He belonged to the early Negro Schools of Politics and was respected through out the southland by those who knew him, whites and blacks. His wife, Mrs. George Oliver is head of the Negro Home Economic Department of Mississippi, and one of the most alert Negro women in Mississippi. Her attention to Prof. Oliver during his long illness, was of patience and devotion.

Hundreds of friends sent telegrams and letters of condolences expressing their regrets of his death and appreciation for his long service to his race and the South.

### Carnival Queen Visits Atlanta University

Miss Maggie Bell Allen, a student of the senior class of Jackson College, spent a very enjoyable trip in Atlanta, Ga., as a result of her triumphant success in the sale of tickets for our Annual Fall Carnival. While there she spent most of her time on the campus of Atlanta University and other colleges in the same vicinity, engaging in some of the student activities and becoming acquainted with the organizations of the particular colleges.

The charming Miss Allen very graciously reigned over the Carnival activities which were held on October 29th and 30th at Jackson College. Each year in which this most exciting and frolicsome event has occurred, Miss Allen and the students in general have worked diligently in making the numerous activities of their affair successful.

The carnival not only has been an occasion of merriment and fun, but also, it has offered a wonderful opportunity for student expression. It is our desire that in all other such activities of the college, students will more and more take the responsibility of sponsorship; that they will bring into fuller play their special talents and many desirable qualities that will characterize them as community leaders.

### Period Of Transformation For Miss. Negroes

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—A period of transformation from civilian to Bluejackets has begun for twenty-two Mississippi Negro men since their entrance this week at the U. S. Naval Training School here.

General indoctrination includes military drill, seamanship and naval procedure. The Negro men are also participating in the navy's intensive physical hardening program. This course was especially developed to put men into tip-top fighting form and is an important part of their "boot training."

Assignment to further specialized training schools or to immediate active duty at sea or at naval shore stations awaits the Negro men after tabulation of their aptitude test scores given during the conclusion of the recruit period. Past civilian experience in one of the trades used by the navy will win immediate petty officer ratings upon the completion of this recruit training period.

The Mississippi recruits are: Roosevelt Camel, 18, Benoit; Hermon Nolen, 32, Bieax; George Wesley Copeland, 24, Booneville; Limuel Jackson, 31, Canton; Peyton Edward Eggleston, 27, Charleston; Henry Lewis, Jr., 17, Clarksdale; Allen Dorsey, 19, Cleveland; John William Tate, 20, Cliftonville; Earnest Jones, 18, Crystal Springs; Lawrence Williams, 28, Duncan; Robert Lee Shows, 27, Ellisville; David L. Hughes, 21, Ether; Ben Johnson, 19, Florida; Jim Cannon, 26, Greenville; Ben Gresham, 18, Greenwood; Felton Reller, 17, Gulfport; Leo Jr., 17, Casey, 19, Gulfport; Willie Smith, 17, Jackson; Roger Williams, 23, Laurel; Josh Smith, 20, Leland; Roosevelt Metcalf, 18, Prairie; Willie Hamner, 30, Winona.

Spanish America first revolted against the Spanish crown but against Napoleon, who had taken over Spain.



Brig.-General Saxton and his staff, for the first time in Chicago held inspection of the Military Order of Guards 1st Cavalry, 1st Division last week. Only colored division of this organization, the girls were highly recommended for the grand showing of their recently-learned arts and sciences. In the picture above are Patsy Beulah Garth, the 19 year old daughter of Mrs. Katie Garth, 438 East 40th St. and Doris W. Brown, the 20 year old daughter of Mrs. Emily Brown of 3234 ernon Avenue, photographed just after "inspection." The "M. O. G." is commanded by General Frank Stewart whose headquarters are located at 5538 Indiana Avenue, Chicago, Ill. Press Photo Service.

### Chaplain Outlines Plan For Post-War Peace At Dillard's Chapel Assembly

"Universal economic security for everybody everywhere, equal educational opportunities for everybody everywhere, and a philosophy of life that will enable people to live together peacefully, is the only way to secure a lasting peace," said Rev. Samuel W. Williams, chaplain of Alcorn College, to the students at Dillard University last week.

As long as we have the "haves" and the "have-nots" we will have conflicting desires and envy, thus economic security is a prime necessity. Education gives people the type of background that causes them to be open to constructive thinking. Much of the racial prejudice and misunderstanding is due to sheer ignorance," he added.

Rev. Williams had little faith in the much talked of "police force" for the world. Quoting "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet," he concluded that such a police force smacked of power politics. He scored those who would seek progress for mankind by a series of crises. If that is true, we should prepare now for a bigger and better war.

The philosophy of life should be the knowledge and the economic opportunities together. It was likened to the hub of a wheel where education and other advantages would be the spokes. He urged the students to seek the hub to give their lives impetus and direction.

### Fred Mitchell Dies

Mr. Fred Mitchell, veteran citizen of Greenville, died on December 6th. Mr. Mitchell was 78 years old and had been ill for many months. The funeral was held Monday, December 13th with Rev. Albert Williams officiating. He was a member of the Mt. Ararat Baptist church.

Mr. Mitchell leaves to mourn, a wife, Mrs. Ella Mitchell, two sons, five daughters and a host of grandchildren.

From Vicksburg, Miss., were his son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mitchell and Mrs. Arville Montgomery, a daughter of Los Angeles California.

### Pace, Miss. Boy Now Second Lt. In U. S. Army

FORT SILL, Okla.—(Special)—Cleveland Turner, Box 34, Pace, Miss., was graduated this week from the Officer Candidate School here and has been commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Field Artillery of the Army of the United States.

Lieutenant Turner, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Turner, Pace, Miss., reported to Fort Sill from Camp Livingston, Louisiana, and has been assigned to Fort McClellan, Alabama. Before starting active duty he was employed as a school teacher at Cleveland, Miss.

### Soldiers Center Report

The regular weekly scheduled program of activities of the Soldiers Recreation Center, at Nelson and Cathey streets, ended with the Saturday night's social, culminating seven days of warmth, pleasure and morale building that can only be found at the Center.

The social hours were from 8:00 p. m. to 1:00 a. m. During this period more than 90 service men and their guests played games and danced. The Center is the place to go when you want a lift, after the daily tolls are over. Truly, it's delightful!

Miss Ervella Williams, ways and means chairman, has charge of the kitchen. And for the first time, since reopening, the stove was put into action. From its oven came golden brown cookies which were delicious. The usual assortment of soft drinks always quenched the thirst, and are tasty, too.

Overheard, by Cpl. Septimus Silas, Official Soldiers Recreation Center's reporter, that next Saturday night's social will include real Italian Spaghetti. Yum, yum! Meet me there—will you buddy?

This column started a couple of weeks ago that Rev. L. S. Rounds was the best orator in Greenville and the Mississippi Delta. Here is proof backing that statement.

Mrs. Pinky Morris won \$50.00 second prize money in an oratorical contest held in Jackson, Miss., last week. Congratulations are in order for the winner and Rev. Rounds, her tutor.

The Soldier-Civilian chorus sang at the GAAP Post Chapel last Sunday, where a bi-weekly special service is performed. Sunday's program of Christmas and spiritual songs by Mrs. Juanita Turney, inspired those who gathered in the house of worship. Mrs. Fay Sanders vocal intercession of Hall John's "City Called Heaven" was well done.

Rev. Rounds, who spoke eloquently from Isaiah 9-6, stressed the fact that "Unto us a Child is Born." A child that belong to all ages. This was a precious Christmas message which will spell bound while this man of God showered us with inspiration.

Chaplain Reed, Post Chaplain, greeted the chorus in his usual friendly manner. He appreciates the cooperation and service of Sergeant Samuel Little, organizer and president of the Soldiers-Civilian Chorus.

### Religious Education In Public School Soon

Religious education has been a debated question, by the state officials of the state of Mississippi for several years. The controversy had three technical points which presented quite a problem.

Attending the meeting from Greenville, Miss., were Worshipful Master, Henry Hudson, Rev. S. W. Hollis. Both reported that the Grand Lodge was largely attended and was one of the best sessions in its history.

It is often claimed that one of the major surprises of the war has been the ability of American railroads to stand up in the face of unprecedented and unforeseen transportation demands. Perhaps nowhere else did the Axis underestimate this nation more than in the strength of its railroads. Shortly after Pearl Harbor, Dr. Paul Goebbels, Germany's Minister of Propaganda, prophesied that rail transportation would prove to be the Achilles' heel of the American production effort.

It looked like a sure bet for Dr. Goebbels. But he overlooked one detail—the driving force of competent private management, spurred to achievement under the lash of competition. The performance of the average freight train today, in load carrying and speed of movement, is nearly 120 per cent greater than it was in 1918!

It is no fault of Dr. Goebbels that he overlooked that single vital detail. Competition and private enterprise have been dead in Germany for many years, the same years that the free American business men running our railroads were busy improving roadbeds, eliminating curves and grades, laying heavier tracks and building locomotives that make those of twenty-five years ago look like baby carriages.

It is not so surprising after all that the Germans underestimated our railroads, just as they have underestimated everything else in this country.

### Miss Planters Paid Negro Tenants Millions Cotton Settlement This Year

### Pvt. Matthews Saves Pennies For War Bonds

LONDON — Pvt. Matthews Tyson, of Durham, N. C., has saved up a thousand pennies with which to buy war bonds. He keeps them in a large sack and there is a good smattering of six pennies and three penny bits (called "Thrupenny bits") as well. The latter have octagonal edges so that, as Matthews says, "You can feel them in your pocket and not mistake them for real money!" The little farthings (quarter of a penny each) he throws over his shoulder for good luck.

The other day, when the American Red Cross Clubmobile "Massachusetts" visited Matthews' outfit, one of the smartest Negro Regiments in Britain, to serve coffee and doughnuts to a long line-up of hungry men, he was persuaded to produce his horde and have his picture taken counting it. "Don't you think the government needs that money?" asked Lt. Robert E. Randolph of Albany, N. Y., when the money had been tipped out on the Clubmobile step. "Well Sir," said Matthews, "the Government is going to get it just as soon as I can get in to a bank to change it for war bonds. If I save any more I won't be able to carry it."

During the counting the company mascot, "Skippy," a little black and white terrier, caused a commotion. Thinking it was all a game for his benefit he dashed in and scratched the money in all directions. Willing hands soon retrieved the pennies and "Skippy" was tied to a truck wheel in punishment.

Matthew has a young wife, Berlin, and a little daughter back home. He is working in a steel mill and thinks he will return to his old job when the war is over. "This saving all started as a joke between myself and a pal," he said. "My friend soon gave up but I kept on and there's the result. It's surprising how quickly it mounts up. I just throw the pennies in my pocket into the bag every night."

### Makes Way To Office

CAMP LEE, Va.—Among the many girls who made their way to offices of this post is Miss Julia G. B. Gilliam. The quiet, charming and rather attractive lady hails from City Point, and is the only colored secretary on the post.

She works at the Salvage and Reclamation Office on Warehouse Row and eyes snap to attention doing a "right" or "left" with rocketlike precision, when she visits service club 2 for dinner.

Miss Gilliam says she is not really in love—that is, at the point of saying "yes." The trim secretary has many friends among army men, but the star in her drama at the moment is a civilian. Very fond of singing and dancing, she was once a member of a church choir while her dancing has always been confined to the ballroom floor with a partner.

Miss Gilliam was graduated from Virginia College in 1941 with a B. S. degree in business administration. Her first job was with the Farm Security Administration. She returned to Virginia State campus in September 1942 to work with the engineering specialist school and remained there until it was inactivated last September. After leaving the bridge builders she came to the fighting quartermasters.

The daughter of the late Capt. George W. Gilliam and Mrs. Gilliam, she lives with her mother.

### SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH- WEST PACIFIC—Gamaliel H. Poe, Negro Marine from Brandon, Miss., has been promoted here to corporal from private first class. He is stationed at an advance supply depot. His mother, Drucilla Poe lives at Route three, Brandon.

Ex-Bishop Jones was accompanied by Rev. C. O. Grimes, school official, Guidice Waveland, Miss., and Rev. F. P. Leonard, pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Church in Hattiesburg.

### COLERED GIRL'S POETRY CHOSEN FOR YALE PRIZE; FIRST OF RACE TO WIN

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—(C)—it has something of the surge or Biblical poetry. And it is obvious that Miss Walker uses that language because it comes naturally to her and is part of her inheritance.

"A contemporary writer, living in a contemporary world, when she speaks of and for her people older voices are mixed with her, the voices of Methodist forebears and preachers who preached the word, the anonymous voice of many who lived and were forgotten and yet out of bondage and hope made a lasting music.

Over the Mississippi Delta many Negroes have purchased thousands of dollars worth of bonds and contributed freely to the war fund. Farming which has been the Mississippi Delta's and the outposts chief industry has paid rich dividends to those who tilled the soil this year. The farmers have put forth every effort to meet the war need by producing food and war material that is essential to national defense.

Much praise has been given to southern growers, Negro tenants county agents, home economic teachers and vocational instructors for their achievements in 1943. They are asked by the secretary of agriculture, to slack not their reins in their production program until the Axis have been knocked out of the war.

### Celebrates Anniversary

The Good Will M. B. church celebrated their twenty-sixth anniversary of their pastor, Rev. C. W. Williams, one who has given his best service, a great leader and master builder. It began Nov. 18-21, 1943.

These are the churches that reported Mt. Mariah, Rev. T. R. Clay pastor, raised \$27,377, Good Hope, \$22; Rev. J. A. Young, pastor. These are the members and friends who gave so willingly:

Deacon T. Edenberge	\$ 3.00
Elgie Perry	1.50
Willie Bush	1.50
Isiah Williams	1.00
Rev. Henry Wills	3.60
Give Spears	1.00
James Randolph	1.00
N. R. Catheron	1.00
Willie Are	1.00
Bro. W. Strughen	1.00
Sug. Flag	2.75
Leon Moody	1.00
Mother Ella Hill	1.00
Edna Walker	1.25
Eddie Holmes	1.00
Ada Bush	1.10
Emma Wills	1.50
Sallie Williams	1.00
Odessa Jenkins	1.00
Charity Calhoun	1.00
Violet Green	1.00
Lady Huston	1.00
Cornelius Wills	1.00
Martha Spears	1.25
Rev. J. A. Young	2.00
Ida Davis	1.00
Cleve McCrone	1.00
M. C. Jones	2.00
Percy Jones	2.00
Loza Lain	2.00
Ben Hubert	2.00
Ida Otis	1.50
Frank Tower Mound Bayou	1.00
Mt. Mariah M. B. Church	20.00
Good Hope M. B. Church	22.31
Mr. Lewis Green	1.00
(Total money raised \$129.85.	
Emma Wills, mistress of ceremony, Lydia Williams secretary, Rev. C. W. Williams, pastor.	

### Bishop Jones Speaker At Camp Shelby

CAMP SHELBY, Miss.—Rev. R. E. Jones, retired bishop of the New Orleans and Columbus District and an outstanding prelate of the Methodist Church, was the principal speaker at a giant religious meeting for Camp Shelby Negro troops in Theater No. 9 Sunday afternoon, Nov. 21.

Advising men not to lose their dignity, self-respect, Christian manhood, and other good traits to vices while in the service, Rev. Jones said, "People on the outside are going to match their skill, courage, and bravery with that of the soldier. . . . The cause you are fighting for is righteousness."

Ex-Bishop Jones was accompanied by Rev. C. O. Grimes, school official, Guidice Waveland, Miss., and Rev. F. P. Leonard, pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Church in Hattiesburg.

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